

MEMO

To: Armerita Tell
From: Kelly Riley
Date: March 23, 2000
Subject: Edward Stokes: Teacher Pay Raise

I returned Mr. Stokes' phone call to the office on Friday, March 17, that afternoon. Mr. Stokes said that the State should take legislators' salaries to pay for the teacher pay raise. Mr. Stokes said that legislators should not receive a salary for the 8 or 9 months that they are not in session when they are receiving a paycheck from their private jobs. Mr. Stokes said that he just wanted to express his opinion.

I prepared correspondence for the Governor's signature acknowledging Mr. Stokes' phone call (see attached).

This case is closed.

March 23, 2000

Edward Stokes
Rt. 5, Box 315
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Thank you for your recent phone call to my office concerning the teacher pay raise. Please be assured that I will continue to support my initiative to raise the average salary of Mississippi teachers to the southeastern average. Mississippi cannot expect to attract and retain qualified teachers to educate our children if we are not willing to pay a competitive salary for such qualified teachers.

Again, many thanks for taking the time to share your concerns with me.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr